THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The Salkia Primary Teachers' Training Institute was established in 1968 by the Government of West Bengal, with support of the Central Government, for conducting a one year teacher training course in Hindi medium.

(c) to (e) The Salkia Primary Teachers' Training Institute had applied to Eastern Regional Committee (ERC) of the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) for grant of recognition for a two years Primary Teachers Training course on 11th March, 1997, but the recognition was refused on account of non-availability of Principal and staff and lack of instructional facilities. Subsequently, the institution applied for validation of their qualification in 2006 which could not be considered by the NCTE as the institution did not submit the requisite fee and compensation as per the provisions laid down in the National Council for Teacher Education (Amendment and Validation) Ordinance, 2006. The institution again applied in October, 2008 for recognition of a two years Primary Teachers' Training course, but the application was returned as it was not accompanied with the requisite fee. In October, 2009, the institution has made a fresh application for recognition.

Dropping out of children from schools

†3326. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no improvement is seen in the problem of children drop out from schools at the age of 6 to 13 years;

(b) if so, the number of children who had dropped out from schools in the academic year 2005 and 2009;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the tendency of dropping out from schools is more prevalent among the children belonging to Muslim community, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(d) if so, the national average of children apart from the average of children belonging to Muslim community, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who had dropped out from schools in the said years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) No, Sirs. Ministry of Human Resource Development collects the information on various educational indicators from the States/UTs annually through Selected Educational Statistics (SES). SES 2006-07 reveals decline in drop-out rate since 2001-02, including that of SCs/STs at primary and elementary level. At Primary level the drop-out has fallen by 13.6 percentage points from 2001 to 2006, compared to a decline of only 2.3 percentage points

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

between the year 1990 to 2000. At Elementary level the drop-out rate has declined from 54,60 in 2001-02 to 45.90 in 2006-07. Drop-out rate in respect of Minority Communities is not available separately. The drop-out rate of SC and ST children at elementary level is as follows:

Year	Primary (I-V)			Elementary (I-VIII)		
	Overall	SC	ST	Overall	SC	ST
2001-02	39.00	45.20	52.30	54.60	60.70	69.50
2006-07	25.60	35.91	33.09	45.90	53.05	62.54

Reform of education sector

3327. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state by when and the manner in which Government is planning to reform the education sector in which its present License Raj policies reward the corrupt and punish ethical players and create shortages and poor quality?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): Educational reforms are continuous process and constant efforts have been made from time to time in consultation with State Governments and other stakeholders for improvement in education sector. Educational reforms have also been discussed in the 56th meeting of Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) held on 31st August,2009 which unanimously endorsed the general need for reforms at all levels of education.

CABE approved the proposal for an autonomous overarching authority for higher education and research with its policy related functions being distinct from regulatory functions - some States felt that there should be scope for the involvement of States. CABE also approved the proposal of a self-selecting Collegium of eminent persons for greater objectivity and assistance to search committees in the selection of Chairperson and Members of the proposed National Commission and in the selection of Vice Chancellors and other eminent academic and research positions. CABE endorsed the need for a law to prevent, prohibit and punish malpractices in higher education - some States felt that the scope of the proposed law should be widened to include all sectors of education, and it was explained that the present proposal was in keeping with the legislative competence of Parliament. CABE approved mandatory assessment and accreditation in higher education - the proposed law should take into consideration the concerns expressed by some of the States with regard to the autonomy of the processes of accreditation.

Information sought under RTI Act from Chaudhary Charan Singh University

3328. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: